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Blair Birmingham

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EXAMINER

RAHMAN, FAHMIDA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2116

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/676,512	Applicant(s) BIRMINGHAM, BLAIR	
	Examiner FAHMIDA RAHMAN	Art Unit 2116	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-10, 12-22, 24 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21, 22 and 24 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 12-14, 16, 18-20 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 9, 15 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to communications filed on 1/29/09.
2. Claims 4, 15, 19, 21 and 25 have been amended, claims 7, 11 and 23 have been canceled.
3. Thus, claims 1-6, 8-10, 12-22, 24-25 are pending.
4. The indicated allowability of claims 1-6, 8-10, 12-22, 24-25 on 10/29/08 have been withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference Wu (US Patent 7058739). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Objections

Claims 10, 12-15 are objected to because of the following informalities:

For claim 10, the recitation of --and—after “wireless command” in line 12 should be deleted.

Claims 12-15 depend on claim 10 and incorporates the informalities of claim 10.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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Claims 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 10 recites "a peripheral connector" in line 5 and "peripheral component" in line 8. It is not clear whether there is any relationship between the two recitations. Since [0032], page 11 of the disclosure mentions that ports are coupled to the peripheral components, it is likely that "peripheral component" is intended instead of "peripheral connector".

Claims 12-15 depend on claim 10 and incorporate the same ambiguity.

Claim 15 recites "the input/output interface" in line 3. It is not clear whether it is same or different from "an input/output port" recited in line 13 of claim 10. Since both are used to provide wake-up command to the processing unit, it is likely that same relationship is intended. For the rest of the action, it is assumed that "the input/output port" was intended in line 3.

Claim 16 recites "a peripheral connector" in line 4 and "peripheral component" in lines 5-6. It is not clear whether there is any relationship between the two recitations. Since [0032], page 11 of the disclosure mentions that ports are coupled to the peripheral components, it is likely that "peripheral component" is intended instead of "peripheral connector".

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Claims 17-20 depend on claim 16. Therefore, they incorporate the same ambiguities.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 16, 18, 19, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wu (US Patent 7058739).

For claim 16, Wu teaches the following limitations:

A method for remote connecting comprising:

- receiving a first power supply (lines 25-30 of column 2) to power a remote connector (12);
- providing, by the remote connector, a plurality of ports, each capable of physically receiving a peripheral connector (Fig 1 shows that hub 12

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- receives plurality of peripheral devices 13a-13d through corresponding ports; lines 10-13 of column 3) for communication with a remote processing system (10; lines 4-9 of column 3) having a second power supply (102) to power the remote processing system (lines 15-20 of column 3), wherein each peripheral component is one of an input device, an output device and an input/output device (lines 35-55 of column 1 mentions that the devices are USB. Thus, a USB mouse/keyboard can be examples of input devices);
- wirelessly receiving a wireless command (14 receives wireless command as shown in Fig 1) from a remote device (16-18 in Fig 1);
 - generating a wake-up command in response to the wireless command (line 65, column 3 through line 5, column 4); and
 - transmitting the wake-up command to the processing system (line 65, column 3 through line 6, column 4 mention that controller sends signals to the host to raise power) coupled to the remote connector across a bus (11b in Fig 1).

For claim 18, wireless command is a wakeup request (lines 50-57 of column 3).

For claims 19 and 20, bus connecting hubs and devices 13a-13d are USB (lines 27-35 of column 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12-14, 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu (US Patent 7058739), in view of Young (US Patent 6963935).

For claim 1, Wu teaches the following limitations:

A remote connector (12 and 14) comprising:

- a power supply input receiver operably coupleable to a power source (102; Fig 1) and being capable of receiving a power supply for powering the remote connector (Fig 1 shows that 12 and 14 receives power supply from 102; lines 5-25 of column 3);
- a plurality of ports, each of the plurality of ports capable of physically receiving a peripheral component for communication (Fig 1 shows that hub 12 receives plurality of peripheral devices 13a-13d through corresponding ports; lines 10-13 of column 3) with a remote processing unit (10; lines 4-9 of column 3), wherein each peripheral component is one of an input device, an output device and an input/output device (lines 35-55 of column 1 mentions that the devices are USB. Thus, a USB mouse/keyboard can be examples of input devices);

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- a wireless receiver capable of wirelessly receiving a wireless command (14 receives wireless command as shown in Fig 1) from a remote device (16-18 in Fig 1); and
- a transmitter (144, 142 in Fig 1) capable of generating a wake-up command in response to the wireless command (line 65, column 3 through line 6, column 4 mention that controller sends signals to the host to raise power) and capable of providing the wake-up command through an input/output interface (11b) to the processing unit (10) operably coupleable to the remote connector (line 65, column 3 through line 10, column 4).

Although Wu's remote connector (i.e., combination of 12 and 14) comprises all the elements recited in the claims, one hub in Wu shown in Fig does not have both physical and wireless interface. Young et al teach a system where hub has interface for both physical peripheral devices and wireless device (Fig 1; lines 5-10 of column 3 mention that peripherals can be wireless; Fig 2; thus, the hub can comprise interface for both wireless and physical devices).

It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wu and Young. One ordinary skill would be motivated to interface devices 13a – 13d with 14 as taught in Young, since this will remove extra hub 12, which will save space and provides easier configuration.

For claim 2, 11a and 11b in Fig 1 of Wu is the bus for transmitting commands from hub to the host.

For claim 4, Young shows an antenna 60 in Fig 2, which can be incorporated in Wu. One ordinary skill would be motivated to use antenna for its ease of use.

For claim 5, 60 in Young is a radio frequency antenna (lines 65-67 of column 4).

For claim 6, Wu's ports are USB (lines 30-35 of column 3).

For claim 8, wireless command is a wakeup request (lines 53-57 of column 3 of Wu).

For claim 10, Wu teaches the following limitations:

A remote connection system (Fig 1) comprising:

- a remote connector (12 and 14) including:
- a power supply input receiver operably coupled to a first power source and being capable of receiving a first power supply for powering the remote connector (hub can have its own power supply; lines 25-30 of column 2);
- a plurality of ports, each capable of physically receiving a peripheral connector for communication (Fig 1 shows that hub 12 receives plurality of

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- peripheral devices 13a-13d through corresponding ports; lines 10-13 of column 3) with a remote processing unit (10 in Fig 1; lines 4-9 of column 3) operably coupled to a second power source (102) and being capable of receiving a second power supply for powering the remote processing unit (lines 15-20 of column 3), wherein each peripheral component is one of an input device, an output device and an input/output device (lines 35-55 of column 1 mentions that the devices are USB. Thus, a USB mouse/keyboard can be examples of input devices);
- a wireless receiver that receives a wireless command (14 receives wireless command as shown in Fig 1); and
 - a transmitter (144, 142 in Fig 1) operative to generate a wake-up command in response to the wireless command (line 65, column 3 through line 6, column 4 mention that controller sends signals to the host to raise power); and
 - an input/output port (11b in Fig 1) operably coupled to the processing unit (Fig 1), such that the wake-up command may be provided to the processing unit (line 65, column 3 through line 10, column 4); and
 - a remote device (16-18 in Fig 1) capable of generating the wireless command and providing the wireless command to the remote connector (Fig 1).

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Although Wu's remote connector (i.e., combination of 12 and 14) comprises all the elements recited in the claims, one hub in Wu shown in Fig does not have both physical and wireless interface. Young et al teach a system where hub has interface for both physical peripheral devices and wireless device (Fig 1; lines 5-10 of column 3 mention that peripherals can be wireless; Fig 2; thus, the hub can comprise interface for both wireless and physical devices).

It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wu and Young. One ordinary skill would be motivated to interface devices 13a – 13d with 14 as taught in Young, since this will remove extra hub 12, which will save space and provides easier configuration.

For claim 12, Wu's ports are USB (lines 30-35 of column 3).

For claim 13, 60 in Young is a radio frequency antenna (lines 65-67 of column 4).

For claim 14, wireless command is a wakeup request (lines 53-57 of column 3 of Wu).

For claim 25, Wu teaches the following limitations:

A remote connector (12 and 14) comprising:

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- a power supply input receiver operably coupleable to a power source (102) and being capable of receiving a power supply for powering the remote connector (Fig 1 shows that 12 and 14 receive power supply from 102; lines 5-25 of column 3), wherein the remote connector is operably remote with respect to a computing system (12 and 14 are remote with respect to computing system 10);
- a plurality of ports, each of the plurality of ports capable of receiving a peripheral component (Fig 1 shows that hub 12 receives plurality of peripheral devices 13a-13d through corresponding ports; lines 10-13 of column 3) for communication with the computing system (lines 4-9 of column 3);
- a wireless receiver capable of wirelessly receiving a wireless command (Fig 1 shows that 14 receives wireless command) from a remote device (16-18 in Fig 1);
- and a transmitter (144, 142 in Fig 1) capable of generating a wake-up command in response to the wireless command (line 65, column 3 through line 6, column 4 mention that controller sends signals to the host to raise power) and capable of providing the wake-up command through an input/output interface (11b) to a processing unit (10) operably coupleable to the remote connector (Fig 1).

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Although Wu's remote connector (i.e., combination of 12 and 14) comprises all the elements recited in the claims, one hub in Wu shown in Fig does not have both physical and wireless interface. Young et al teach a system where hub has interface for both physical peripheral devices and wireless device (Fig 1; lines 5-10 of column 3 mention that peripherals can be wireless; Fig 2; thus, the hub can comprise interface for both wireless and physical devices).

It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wu and Young. One ordinary skill would be motivated to interface devices 13a – 13d with 14 as taught in Young, since this will remove extra hub 12, which will save space and provides easier configuration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 21-22, 24 are allowed.

Claims 3, 9, 15, 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to overcome claim objections and rejections under 35 USC 112 as set forth in this action including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fahmida Rahman whose telephone number is 571-272-8159. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday Tuesday Thursday 8:30 - 5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Fahmida Rahman/
Examiner
Art Unit 2116

/Thomas Lee/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2115